

FOR NATIONAL PHASE SUBMISSION

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection—(1) having comprising:

      a spark gap—(2) which has mutually opposite electrodes (3), with

      a light source for production of an ignition light as a function of initiation signals from a control unit, with wherein the ignition light being—is designed for direct ignition of the spark gap—(2), characterized by—and

      an optical waveguide—(15) for carrying the ignition light to the spark gap—(2).

2. (Currently Amended) The An overvoltage protection—(1) as claimed inaccordance to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the electrodes—(3) are arranged on a platform—(4) which is designed to be electrically isolated, is—at a high-voltage potential, and is—provided for components to be mounted on, which wherein the components can be connected to a high-voltage three-phase electrical power supply system, and in that wherein the light source is grounded.

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3. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection according to claim 1, wherein The overvoltage protection (1) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the light source has a pump laser-(16) which is designed for optical pumping of a fiber laser-(17), with an active medium of the fiber laser-(17) being formed in one section of the optical waveguide-(15).

4. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection according to claim 1, comprising The overvoltage protection (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized by optics for focusing of the ignition light.

5. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection according to claim 1, wherein The overvoltage protection (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the ignition light is guided on a surface of the electrode-(3) facing the opposite electrode-(3).

6. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection according to claim 1, wherein The overvoltage protection (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the free end of the optical waveguide-(15) remote from the light source is arranged in one electrode-(3).

7. (Currently Amended) An overvoltage protection according to claim 1, wherein The overvoltage protection as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spark gap is part of an ignition circuit-(5) for ignition of a main spark gap.

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8. (NEW) An overvoltage protection comprising:  
a spark gap which has mutually opposite electrodes,  
an ignition light source receiving initiation signals from  
a control unit, wherein the ignition light is designed for  
direct ignition of the spark gap, and  
an optical waveguide for carrying the ignition light to  
the spark gap.

9. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 8,  
wherein the electrodes are arranged on a platform which is  
designed to be electrically isolated, at a high-voltage  
potential, and provided for components to be mounted on,  
wherein the components can be connected to a high-voltage  
three-phase electrical power supply system, and wherein the  
light source is grounded.

10. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim  
8, wherein the light source has a pump laser which is designed  
for optical pumping of a fiber laser, with an active medium of  
the fiber laser being formed in one section of the optical  
waveguide.

11. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim  
8, comprising optics for focusing of the ignition light.

12. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim  
8, wherein the ignition light is guided on a surface of the  
electrode facing the opposite electrode.

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13. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 8, wherein the free end of the optical waveguide remote from the light source is arranged in one electrode.

14. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 8, wherein the spark gap is part of an ignition circuit for ignition of a main spark gap.

15. (NEW) An overvoltage protection comprising:  
a spark gap which has mutually opposite electrodes,  
a light source for production of an ignition light as a function of initiation signals from a control unit, wherein the ignition light is designed for direct ignition of the spark gap, and  
an optical waveguide for carrying the ignition light to the spark gap,  
wherein the electrodes are arranged on a platform which is designed to be electrically isolated, at a high-voltage potential, and provided for components to be mounted on, wherein the components can be connected to a high-voltage three-phase electrical power supply system, and wherein the light source is grounded.

16. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 15, wherein the light source has a pump laser which is designed for optical pumping of a fiber laser, with an active medium of the fiber laser being formed in one section of the optical waveguide.

17. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 15, comprising optics for focusing of the ignition light.

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18. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 15, wherein the ignition light is guided on a surface of the electrode facing the opposite electrode.

19. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 15, wherein the free end of the optical waveguide remote from the light source is arranged in one electrode.

20. (NEW) An overvoltage protection according to claim 15, wherein the spark gap is part of an ignition circuit for ignition of a main spark gap.